

CYBER 7

Rock and ROLLAND™



the PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

- **CYBER 7: BOOK TWO #1**
Our heroes must battle not only Cunningham, but the Rocklanders as well—and on Rockland, the losers become that night's main course!
- **FLY IN MY EYE**
This horror anthology contains stories and sketches by Clive Barker, John Bolton, Bill Steinkamp, Steve Bisette and many others.
- **DOMINION #1 (of 6) New Series!**
From the creator of *Applesed* in a world of life-threatening pollution, the Tank Police must rescue the one biotoid that is able to purify the air from the supernatural Bualul.
- **BLACK TERROR #1 (of 3) New Series!**
In a world ruled by crime, one man goes undercover to set things right. But can he fight with and against the crime syndicate at the same time?
- **CLIVE BARKER'S BOOKS OF BLOOD: A PORTFOLIO**
This limited edition portfolio collects the six full-color paintings Barker created for the first editions of his *Books Of Blood*. Each set is signed by Barker.
- **APPLESEED: BOOK THREE no. 3**
Deunan prepares for a special mission to Pnamo to stop illegal weapons smuggling. And how is stolen Olympus technology being used?
- **DIRTY PAIR II #4 (of 5)**
A look into the past reveals why Shael is not on the Pair's 'Ten Favorite People I Like To Associate With' list—she killed the Dirty Pair years ago!
- **THE RETURN OF VALKYRIE**
This collection of Airboy #1-5 details the death of the original Airboy, his son's assumption of that role, and the return of Valkyrie! Cover painting by Jim Steranko!

FUN WITH FOIL: Today's exciting printing game is picking colours for foil stamping. To give retailers a break and make life easier for us, we've decided to cover-mark 2nd printings of all our books from now on. In the case of *Tapping the Vein* #1, which had gold foil on the cover of the 1st printing, we're going to use bright green foil for the 2nd printing. *Tapping* #2, with red foil on the 1st printing, will have to sell out before it gets a new foil colour, but knowing how quickly our best-sellers move, I'm betting we'll be out of stock in less than a month. That's why I already have #2's second foil colour picked out. What colour? That's a secret. You'll have to wait and see.

Foil stamping is tons of fun. Expensive fun, like a ski vacation, a shopping spree, or a trip to the hardware store when your bathroom pipes have burst, but fun nonetheless. Look for more foil stamping in our future.


FUN WITH LIMITED EDITIONS: We've been publishing limited, signed editions of graphic albums for years now. Unless the artists set a ceiling on the number of copies they'll sign, we confine print-runs of limited editions to orders-plus-10%, so everyone who pre-orders a copy can get one. Our limited editions generally sell out quickly, and once gone, they can never be reproduced. But the market for these collectors' dreams has just taken a leap into the stratosphere.

I thought we'd hit a high point with the limited slipcase edition of Roy Krenkel's *Swordsmen and Sorcerers*: because Roy is no longer living, we purchased 175 sketches by him, embossed them with an authenticating stamp, and bound

them into the book. The price was a hefty \$125 per copy, but after four months, we still have ten left unsold. Pretty good, considering that we only took out one ad for the slipcase edition...

But not as good as Bob Kane's autobiography, *Batman and Me*. The slipcase edition of that forthcoming book, with autographed colour plate and original sketch of the Caped Crusader, is \$250 per copy, and every copy will have been sold before this column sees print...or the book itself goes to press. We've been besieged with phone calls from frantic collectors who are distraught at missing out on this edition. To all who wanted it and failed to get a copy, our apologies. We knew it was hot, but once it was offered through the regular distribution system, orders came flying in and all the copies are now spoken for.

Next year we'll be bringing out *Clive Barker, Illustrator*, a book of art by the noted horror writer and film director. It too will be available in a slipcase edition bearing an original sketch. The slipcase edition is limited to 900 copies, too few to put into regular distribution channels. Although paperback, trade hardcover, and limited, autographed hardcover editions will be sold by retailers, the slipcase edition will only be available from Eclipse. This column may be the only "ad" you'll see for this edition, so if you want it, call (707) 887-1521 today and reserve a copy. Then you won't gnash your teeth because you didn't get the book of your dreams.

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7™



BRIDGE EIGHT: Tatsuki Unbound

BY SHUHO MIYASHI

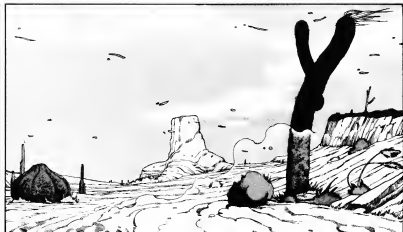
TRANSLATION BY DAVID LEVINS AND TOREN SMITH

LETTERING AND RESKETCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

EDITED BY NORIYUKI UKITA



MAN.
WHAT A
BARREN
WASTELAND
!

THE
CYBER 7
CALLED IT
ROCKLAND.

YEAH...BUT WHERE
ARE THEY NOW?
WHY COULDN'T
THEY HAVE
DROPPED US OFF
AT A HOTEL OR
SOMETHING?

UURRR!

AIEE!

I WILL...
KILL YOU
ALL!!
KILL!!
KILL!!



OH NO!
TATSUKI'S
STILL
CRAZY!

GO
AWAY!
SCRAM
!



THAT DEVICE I
ATTACHED TO HIM
HAS TURNED HIM
INTO A KILLING
MACHINE.
ABLE TO USE
EVERY OUNCE
OF POTENTIAL
POWER IN HIS
BODY. DO AS I
SAY, OR I'LL
ORDER HIM TO--

HUH
?!

YAA-EE!

YOU
LAUGHED
AT ME,
RABBIT-MAN!
NOW YOU
DIE!!

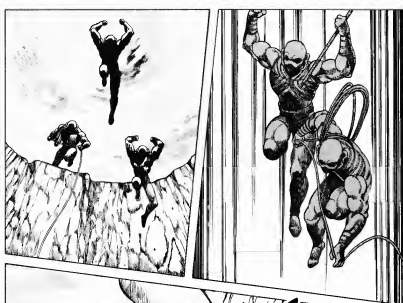
RAAA!

OH, NO!
CROSSING
THE BRIDGE
SCREWED
UP THE
CONTROL
DEVICE
!

HAY, HAY,
HAY!!
WHO'S
LAUGHING
NOW,
RABBIT-
MAN?







AH...ERR...NATSUKO,
DONT YOU THINK
THIS MIGHT BE A
PRETTY GOOD TIME
TO CALL THE
CYBER 7?

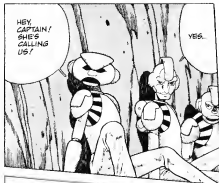


WELL?
HURRY
UP!

EEK!
UNCLE,
WATCH
IT WITH
THOSE
HANDS
!

RR' AMOPHAS
R'RIKOU
CYBER 7!
COME TO ME!





HEY,
CAPTAIN!
SHE'S
CALLING
US!

YES...

BUT
UNFORTUNATELY
WE CAN'T DO
ANYTHING
ABOUT IT
THIS TIME



WE WERE ONLY
PREPARED TO
TRANSPORT PRINCESS
LUNA AND TAKU
THROUGH THE
BRIDGE, BUT WE ENDED
UP WITH THREE MORE
PASSENGERS. MORE
POWER LOSS, MORE
DAMAGE. NO, WE'RE
NOT GOING TO
BE GOING
ANYWHERE
SOON!

THINK
THEY'LL LAST
THAT LONG
WITHOUT
US...?

PROBABLY
NOT



NATUKO,
THEY'RE
NOT
COMING
!!

JEEZ,
NATUKO! DO
SOMETHING!
THESE GUYS
ARE GONNA
KILL US!!



WILL YOU PLEASE
STOP YOUR
WHIMPERING
AND SWITCH BACK
INTO MY FATHER'S
PERSONALITY?!
THINK OF SOME
WAY TO SAVE
US!

O-O-KAY...



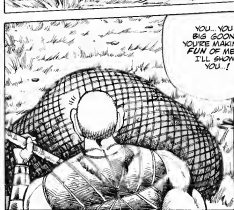
ALL RIGHT! MR.
NONOMURA, NATSUKO--
I BELIEVE YOU WANT
A SOLUTION TO
THIS PROBLEM!



YOU
BET!



MMMM...
I WONDER
IF
THERE
IS
ONE..?



YOU... YOU
BIG GOON...
YOU'RE MAKING
FUN OF ME!
I'LL SHOW
YOU..!



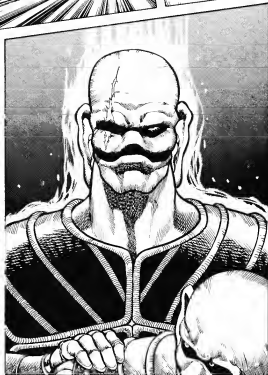
...I'LL
KILL
YOU
FOR
THIS
!!

SPRAKK

SON!
DON'T
DO
IT!

TATSU,
WATCH
OUT
!







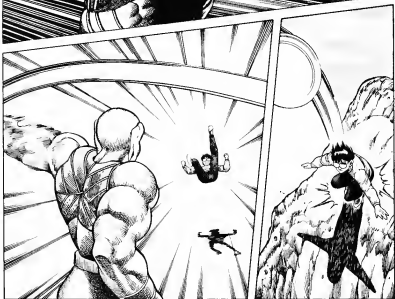


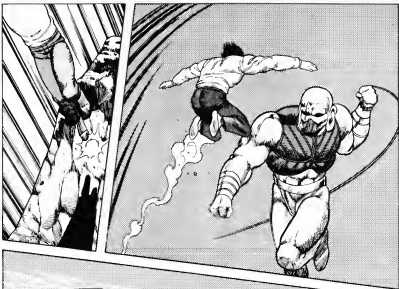
IN-INCREIBLE!
WHAT THE HELL
HAS TATSUKI
BEEN DOING
IN HIS
SPACE TIME,
ANYWAY?!

TATSU!
IF YOU SAVE
US, I'LL DO
ANYTHING
YOU ASK!
ANYTHING
!!

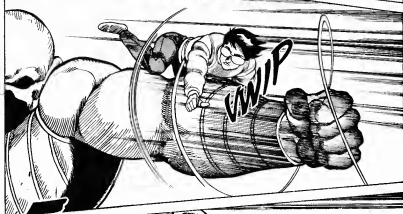
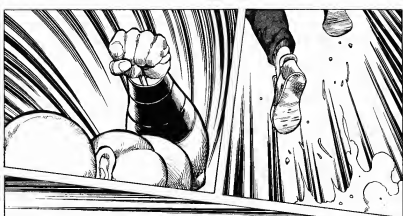
NOW,
JUST HOLD
ON A
MINUTE
HERE,
NATSUKO!





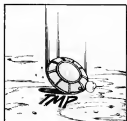


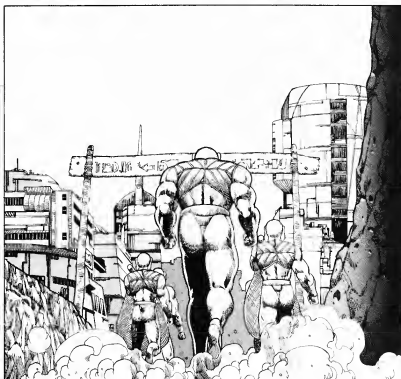


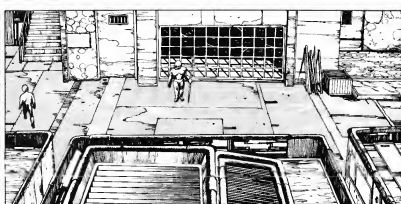




LOOK AT THAT, SPORTS FANS! A POWERFUL CROSS-COUNTER KICK TO THE JAW AS THE CHALLENGER SPINS HIMSELF AROUND THAT MIGHTY PUNCH FIVE TIMES HIS OWN SIZE! ...AND THE BIG GUY IS DOWN! THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE! THE INVINCIBLE GIANT HELPLESS AGAINST THAT SAVAGE BLOW, TO GO DOWN IN MARTIAL ARTS HISTORY AS THE COMET CROSS KICK! CAN YOU BELIEVE--ER, IS IT OVER YET? IS HE STILL ALIVE?

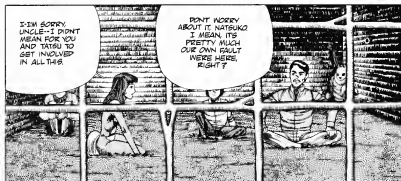






I-IM SORRY,
UNCLE--I DIDN'T
MEAN FOR YOU
AND TATSU TO
GET INVOLVED
IN ALL THIS.

DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT NATSUKO
I MEAN, IT'S
PRETTY MUCH
OUR OWN FAULT
WERE HERE,
RIGHT?



BESIDES, IF ANYTHING,
I'M FINALLY FREE--
THANKS TO YOU! NO
MORE RESTRAINTS, NO
MORE RESTRICTIONS...
IT'S LIKE BEING
BORN AGAIN!



WONDERFUL. CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR SECOND LIFE, MR NONOMURA.

SO JUST WHERE DO WE GO FROM
HERE, NATSUKO? WE CAN'T LEAVE
MR NONOMURA AND HIS BOY ON
THIS GODFORSAKEN PARALLEL. IT
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE
TO DRAG THEM ALL THE WAY TO THE
CRYSTAL WORLD, DOESN'T IT?



HUH! I DONT
HAVE TO TAKE THAT
FROM MY OWN KID!
WHY DONT YOU SWITCH
BACK INTO YOUR
TAKU! PERSONALITY,
EH?

THE PROBLEM OF
HOW TO DEAL WITH
UNCLE NONOMURA AND
TATSU IS JUST GOING
TO HAVE TO WAIT
THE REAL PROBLEM
RIGHT NOW IS HOW
TO GET OUT OF HERE
BY OURSELVES, SINCE
WE CANT CALL
THE CYBER 7

WHAT DO
THESE
BIG GUYS
HAVE
PLANNED
FOR US
ANYWAY
?

INCINERATE
US, LAD
BURN US
UP UNTIL
THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT BUT
BONE AND
ASHES.

THESE GIANTS WORSHIP FIRE AND THEY THINK
THAT IF THEY SACRIFICE PEOPLE STRONGER OR
WISER THAN THEMSELVES TO THE FIRE GOD AND
THEN EAT THEIR ASHES, THEY'LL GAIN THE
ATTRIBUTES OF THOSE PEOPLE. PRIMITIVE LITTLE
RELIGION, WOULDN'T YOU SAY...? IN ANY CASE, IF
TATSUKI HADN'T DEFEATED THEIR CHAMPION, WE
WOULD HAVE GOTTEN OFF WITH JUST BEING
SLAVES FOR LIFE. BUT NOW, IT SEEMS THEY'VE
DECIDED WE'D ALL MAKE A GOOD FEED.

I DID
WHAT?!!
HEY,
BUT--

FOOD



TO BE CONTINUED...

SCANNED BY: EVANGELISTI
EDITED BY: ZOMBIEBOASTER
TEAM KOMICS-LIVE.COM
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 **ECLIPSE**
INTERNATIONAL

Shuho Itahashi's

No 2
\$2.00 / CANADA
\$2.50

CYBER 7

Book Two: ROCKLAND



 **STUDIO**
PROTEUS
Ushio Shippensha

the PENUMBRA

WRITE TO ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

- **CYBER 7: BOOK TWO no. 1**
Natsuko and her comrades are being held by the vicious Rocklanders until dinner time, when they will be featured as the main course!
- **BATMAN AND ME**
The creator of Batman tells all in his new secrets-spilling autobiography! Discover the inspiration for the Batman and the Joker—plus much more!
- **COMICS EXPRESS no. 1**
The nation's top humor strips are collected, including *Boke*, *Brother's Outland*, and *Jeff Mackelley's Shod*.
- **APPLESEED POSTER no. 1**
The cover to *Appleseed: Book One #2* is now a full-size deluxe poster!
- **DOMINION no. 2 (of 6)**
The super-criminal Baku hijacks Leon's tank to launch an assault upon the city!
- **TALES OF THE BEANWORLD no. 15**
Proffy's accidental discovery of Beanrith's secret power becomes a serious problem!
- **THE HOBBIT POSTER #1**
J. R. R. Tolkien's world comes alive in this full-size deluxe poster of the cover to *The Hobbit* #1!
- **APPLESEED: BOOK THREE no. 3**
Deunan's new mission becomes a triangular affair, forcing her to break all ESAAF rules in order to survive.
- **SATURDAY MOURNING**
It's a new fly in My Eye anthology featuring the work of *Clive Barker*, *John Bolton*, *Ramsey Campbell* and others!
- **THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER**
Humorist Hunt Emerson wildly adapts the classic poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge!
- **POGO AND ALBERT**
This first volume in a series of Pogo albums contains his very first appearance! By Walt Kelly!
- **KRAZY + IGNATZ vol. 1**
The collection of the first year's run of Higgins' classic Sunday newspaper strip is available again! Don't miss out!

Once I was a little girl and I lived in Berkeley with my mother. When we went across the bay, we took a ferry boat. There was a big bridge for people with cars but, like most of our friends, we didn't own a car, so we rode the ferry.

I loved to stand at the front of the boat and look over the water as San Francisco's skyscrapers came into view. I'd heard the phrase "thine alabaster cities gleam" in a song, and I knew that alabaster was a white stone. Sparkling in the sunlight that bounced off the waters, San Francisco looked like a city built of white stone, and so I called it the "Alabaster Cities Gleam."

One day, our teacher took us on a field trip. We rode a school bus down to the pier, got on a ferry, and sailed to the Alabaster Cities Gleam. At first it didn't seem like much of a field trip to me, I could have taken a ferry any time with my mother. But our teacher explained that more bridges were being built and soon the ferries were not going to run anymore. She said this might be the last ferry ride any of us would ever take.

Our teacher was right. The ferries did stop running. My mother bought a car; we drove across the bay on the bridges. San Francisco was still white, but it didn't sparkle quite the way it had from the water level. Sometimes the air was brown and it didn't sparkle at all. That was air pollution, my mother said. It was caused by all the cars.

Now I live in Sonoma County. When my husband and I go down below, we drive our car across one bridge or another. Sometimes there are so many cars trying to cross the bridges we have to wait

in long lines to pay our toll.

A few years ago we went back east to visit my husband's old home on Staten Island. We didn't drive into Manhattan the next morning, we rode a ferry. As I got aboard, I began to cry a little; it was so wonderful. But looking out across the water, I noticed that Manhattan is not an Alabaster Cities Gleam, it's just a big grey pile of blocks, and it seemed unfair that they still have a fleet of ferries and we don't.

When the earthquake hit last month, I rode it out, safe and unharmed. But the radio reports sounded bad, so I put batteries in my little portable television and stayed up all night watching. The images I saw were terrifying; the Bay Bridge broken like a toy, the Nimitz Freeway shattered.

In the morning, an official said that ferry service across the bay would resume, at least until the bridge was repaired. To my surprise, I found this news brought tears to my eyes. I was not crying for those who had died in the earthquake, I regret to say. No, as best I can figure it, I was crying from joy, as once I'd cried long ago in Berkeley, when my mother told me I could keep the little calico kitten I had named Spotty.

I know the little girl in me is selfish, but I forgive her. She doesn't really know or care about human suffering. She only missed the ferries... and no matter how it happened, she's glad they're back. She wants to take a ferry ride again. She wants to see the Alabaster Cities Gleam.

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7™



BRIDGE NINE: Rockland at War

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

TRANSLATION BY DANA LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

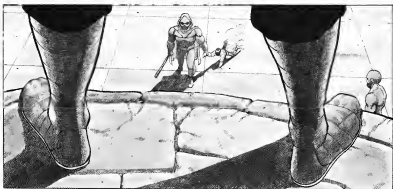
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EDITED BY NOSUYUKI UKITA







GUOZU!



ILGHADEEN GORUPOON!
MARUKEBIDOH!*

* <ILGHADEEN AIR
TROOPERS! COMBAT
STATIONS!>



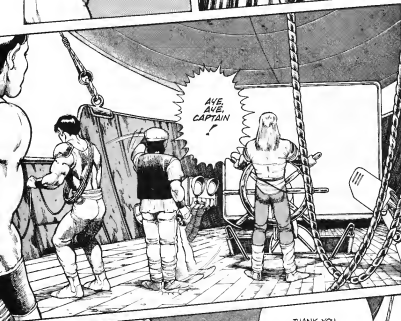
IL-
ILGHADEEN
!

NOVA!



ENDO





TELL
ME...HOW
DO YOU
SEE OUR
MISSION
?

VERY SIMPLE, SIR--TO STEAL
FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE
GIANT TALMEN TRIBE THE
PEOPLE BELIEVED TO HAVE
CROSSED INTO ROCKLAND
FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION!



INDEED...
SO TELL ME, SNAEVEL--DO
YOU REALLY
BELIEVE
THERE ARE
PEOPLE WHO
CAN CROSS
DIMENSIONS
?

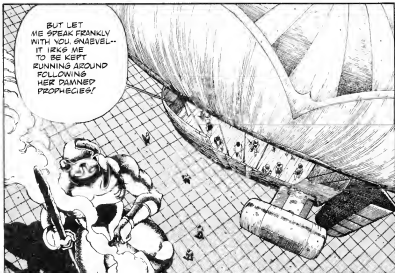


I...WELL, NOT REALLY, SIR,
TO SPEAK THE TRUTH BUT
THE MATRIARCH...WELL,
CAPTAIN, WHEN SHE
PROPHESIES WITH THAT
CRYSTAL BALL OF HER'S,
SEEMS SHE NEVER GETS
IT WRONG.

YES,
IT'S TRUE...
SHE'S
RIGHT
MOST
OF THE
TIME.



BUT LET
ME SPEAK FRANKLY
WITH YOU, SNAEVEL--
IT IRKS ME
TO BE KEPT
RUNNING AROUND
FOLLOWING
HER DAMNED
PROPHESIES!



BUT PROPHECY OR NO, WE
ARE THE INVINCIBLE
AIR TROOPERS OF
ILGHADEEN! WE HUNGER
FOR BATTLE WITH THE
TALMEN GIANTS LIKE A
SHARK FOR BLOOD!
DROP ANCHOR!



AYE,
AYE,
CAPTAIN
!



KCHAK

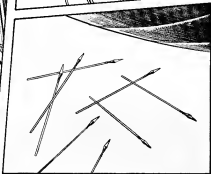
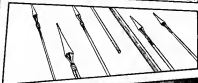
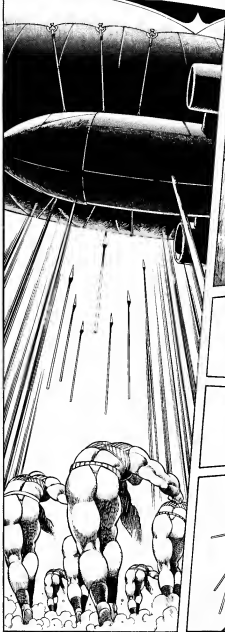


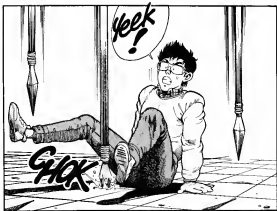


URUGHA
GNAA!*

*: <SPEAR
THROWERS,
ADVANCE!>











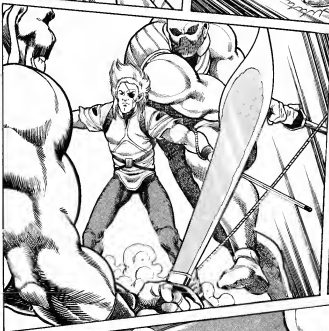


DAMNED IF I
KNOW WHAT'S GOING
ON, BUT EVEN A
COLLEGE PROPOUT
LIKE ME KNOWS
BAD NEWS WHEN
HE SEES IT!

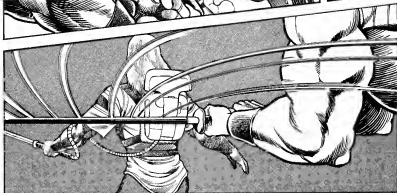


OHUUU...
GEEZ, WHAT
A MORON!
STUPID
PLACE TO
SLEEP!





TIME
TO
DIE,
SCUM
!





BOTH OF
YOU STAND
BACK!
I'M COMING
THROUGH!

BUT--

YAAHH!

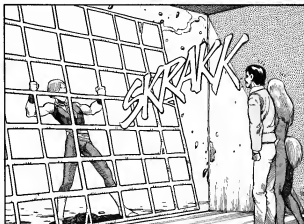
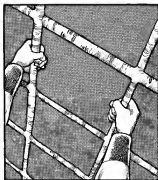
OOOPS...

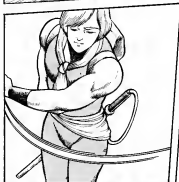
FWDD

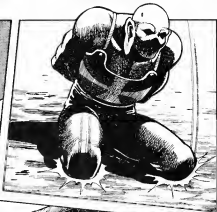
?!

THMF

STIFF







MEAD! ARE THOSE
THE PEOPLE FROM
ANOTHER
DIMENSION?



THEY
APPEAR
TO BE,
FATHER...

AND I'VE
CAPTURED
THE VILLAGE
CHIEFTAIN.
TIME TO
MOVE OUT!



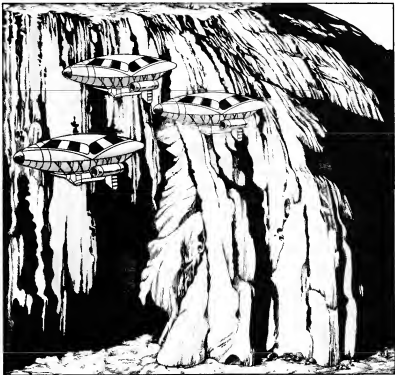
CAN YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHAT
THEY'RE
SAVING...?



NO WAY!
NOT A
WORD
!

WELL, ONE
THING'S FOR SURE--
IT'S OUT OF ONE
PRISON CELL AND
INTO ANOTHER
FOR THE LOT
OF US!
BAH!







HEY! IF YOU'RE SO SMART, RABBIT-HEAD, WHY DON'T YOU TELL US WHO THESE GUYS ARE?

WHY ASK ME?



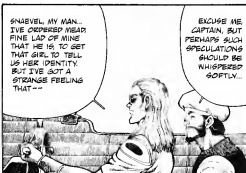
WELL, YOU SEEMED TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT WHAT THEY WERE PLANNING FOR TATSUKI BACK THERE.

AHEM! HERE CONJECTURE ON MY PART, BASED ON MY EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF RITUALISTIC BEHAVIOR AMONG PRIMITIVES

HUH! BACK TO TAKU'S PERSONALITY AGAIN, ARE YOU?

BUT UNCLE... I'M KINDA WORRIED ABOUT SIB! WHY'D THEY TAKE HER TO THAT OTHER SHIP?

HE'S GOT A POINT, DAD! AND I CAN JUST GUESS WHY THAT MAGHO CREEP DRAGGED HER OFF!



SNAEVEL, MY MAN... I'VE ORDERED MEAD FINE LAD OF MINE THAT HE IS, TO GET THAT GIRL TO TELL US HER IDENTITY. BUT I'VE GOT A STRANGE FEELING THAT --

EXCUSE ME, CAPTAIN, BUT PERHAPS SUCH SPECULATIONS SHOULD BE WHISPERED SOFTLY...



I SEE THAT YOU HARBOR SIMILAR SUSPICIONS, SNAEVEL...



DOUBTLESS, SIR... AND AFTER ALL, CAPTAIN, WE KNOW LADY HYDRAX HAS PLANTED SOME OF HER AGENTS ABOARD OUR SHIPS.



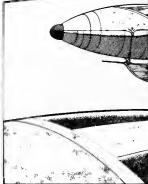
SNAEVEL... I'M OF A MIND THAT THAT GIRL COULD WELL BE LUNA OKUSUTAN HERSELF--CROWN PRINCESS OF THE CRYSTAL WORLD

I THOUGHT AS MUCH, CAPTAIN.

THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO COULD HAVE BUILT A BRIDGE ACROSS THE PLANES OF THE MACROCOSMOS TO THIS PARALLEL ARE THE AGENTS OF KAKUO... OR SHE WHO COMMANDS THOSE LEGENDARY WARRIORS, THE CYBER 7. IT COULD ONLY BE PRINCESS LUNA HERSELF...



...AND IF IT'S TRUE, THEN I'LL BE DAMNED IF I HAND HER OVER TO HYDRAX! BY THE NAME AND HONOR OF THE PEOPLE OF ILGHADDEEN, I SHALL NOT!



WELL, WONT YOU AT LEAST TELL ME *WHERE* YOU'RE TAKING US?/ AND WHY DID YOU BRING ME TO THIS SHIP ANYWAY?



OH, NO... HE KNOWS MY TRUE NAME! I MUST BE MIXED UP WITH THIS STUPID WORLD, TOO!



WELL, THEN, *FINE*. IF I'M TO BE CURSED WITH ALL THIS, THAT'S LIFE! BUT THE NEXT TIME I CALL, THE CYBER 7 HAD DAMNED WELL BETTER COME!



LUNA OKUSUTAN...?



WE'RE
APPROACHING
THE
GREAT
PIT,
CAPTAIN
!

ALL RIGHT,
MEN! DIVING
PLANES
FULL!
PREPARE FOR
DESCENT!







TO BE CONTINUED..

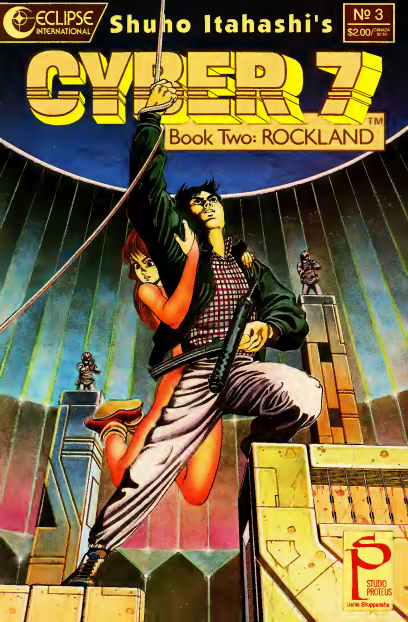
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CYBER 7™

Book Two: ROCKLAND



PENUMBRA

WRITE TO ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

- **CYBER 7: BOOK TWO** no. 3
Revolution rocks Rockland when Natsuko reveals herself as Princess Lunika, the rightful ruler of Crystal World.
- **REID FLEMING** vol. 1, no. 1
5th printing! Now is your chance to meet Reid, his girlfriend Lena, his boss Mr. O'Clock, and his nemesis, Mr. Gabbit.
- **COMICS EXPRESS** no. 2
Outland, Mother Goose & Grimm, and six other top humor strips are collected in Comics Express every month.
- **REID FLEMING** vol. 2, no. 3
2nd printing! Reid has been fired from his job as a milkman and tries his hand at cable television installation.
- **SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN** no. 16
Scout's attempt to live a peaceful life with his sons ends in the ultimate tragedy!
- **STORMWATCHER** no. 4 (of 4)
Atok Stormwatcher and his companions stand against an army of evil ogres!
- **POGO AND ALBERT** vol. 1
Ivory appearance of Walt Kelly's Pogo from Animal Comics and Pogo Comics is presented in chronological order! Don't miss this first volume!
- **APPEASED: BOOK THREE** no. 3
Deunan's new mission becomes a national affair, forcing her to break all ESWAT rules in order to survive.
- **TAPPING THE VEIN** no. 3
More Clive Barker stories! Illustrated by Denis Cowan and Michael Davis, and Bo Hampton. Cover by Dave McKean!
- **JAMES BOND** 007 no. 2
Bond's attempts to rescue Dr. Witzkiado's daughter runs him up against the Czechoslovakian army! Written and illustrated by Mike Grell.
- **WHAT'S MICHAEL?**
Japan's version of Garfield is now available in a new graphic album from Studio Proteus!

THE CHOICE IS YOURS: This week Dean and I hired house-painter Cliff Langlois (father of Eclipse Book Issue Teen Squad leader Quinn Supplee) to paint our guest bedrooms so we can have company over without feeling ashamed. (Reality-check here: when I say these rooms need painting, I mean they need painting: the former occupants were two children whose precocious artistic calling was not entirely justified by the results of their labour and whose parents never fixed the leaky roof, resulting in nasty brown stains on the few wall surfaces the kids had not defaced.)

While prepping the rooms, Cliff commented on "all the neat stuff" (his exact words) around the place. I don't know exactly what he was referring to: a quick survey of immediately visible items revealed several cases of books and graphic albums; a dozen old posters, prints, fruit crate labels, and tin litho signs; a wooden trunk; a paper model of the Chrysler Building; a few sea-shells; four chipped Roseville vases; a home-made replica of Poor Cocco, the toy wooden dog from a book of the same name illustrated by Arthur Rackham; a pair of Shocco wood candlesticks; a 1920s Chinese sewing basket; a 1907 Singer treadle sewing machine; an HO scale caboose; a model 1942 Mercury; an art deco lamp; two embroidered table runners; a short run of Astounding magazine; a broken marble cross from a New Orleans graveyard; some dried flowers; a cheap fumed oak 1940s bed, vanity, and dresser set; two 1940s advertising mirrors featuring images of pretty cowgirls; and a large basket full of Catalin plastic cabinet pulls from the 1930s. More or less.


Cliff isn't the first person to mention all the "stuff" around here, or to wonder how we got it. To tell the truth, I used to feel a little guilty, a little...privileged because we have lots of cool junk and other people don't, and they're always telling us how "neat" it is. But today it

occurred to me that the reason we have it and they don't is because they don't really want it. They may like it enough to talk about it, but they don't like it enough to acquire it.

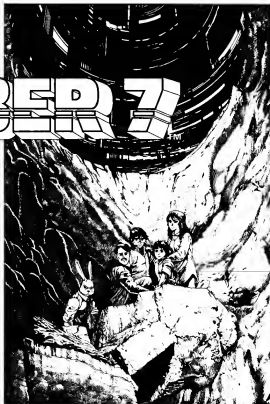
You see, anybody who has a steady job and wants to buy the kind of stuff described above can afford to gather it in large quantities. It's not rare or valuable, and although most people who have "normal" lifestyles (lifestyles that include televisions, dishwashers, and microwave ovens) don't see it for sale in stores that take credit cards and therefore think it is "rare," the truth is they could get tons of it if they'd only go out and search the flea markets instead of staying home and watching televised football games while eating microwaved popcorn off their squeaky-clean plates.

In short, we all make choices. Dean and I have "neat stuff," but we have no fond memories of last Sunday's thrilling pass into the end-zone because we were out buying cabinet pulls while the game was on. Of course, I wouldn't trade those cabinet pulls for a week's worth of football, but I've only now come to understand that most football fans wouldn't trade their Sunday game for a truck load of slightly dinged Roseville vases...not even if the dinged parts were on the bases, where they hardly even show! Those folks may think our stuff is cool when it's in our house, but their own lives have set priorities, and those priorities do not include buying "neat stuff."

So no more guilt for me, folks: I've made my choice, and I stand by it. No microwave oven...many books. No televised football...lots of fruit crate labels. No dishwasher...but, please, let me find another Chinese sewing basket (with glass beads, silk tassel, and brass coins all intact) before the rainy season starts!

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7



BRIDGE TEN: The Hydrax Trap

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

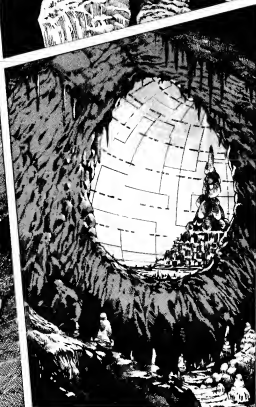
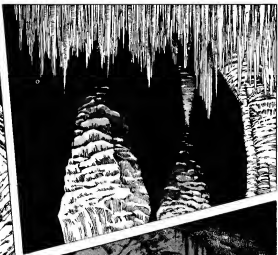
TRANSLATION BY DANA LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

LETTERING AND RETOUCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA







YOU'RE
LATE!
YOU WERE
SUPPOSED
TO RELIEVE
ME FIVE
MINUTES
AGO!

NOT MY FAULT. THEY'RE
GOING AT IT HAMMER AND
TONGS IN THERE. DON'T
KNOW WHAT IT'S ABOUT,
BUT WE JUST GOT ORDERS
TO REINFORCE THE
GUARD.

SO BE
A GOOD
FELLOW
AND
RELIEVE
ME!

NOT SO
FAST,
SOLDIER
BOY.

THE CURRENT
WATCH HAS TO
STAY ON DUTY,
SO WE'RE
STUCK HERE
TOGETHER.
TOUGH LUCK,
PAL!

DAMN!

DON'T
BLAME ME—
HYDRAX'S
ORDERS



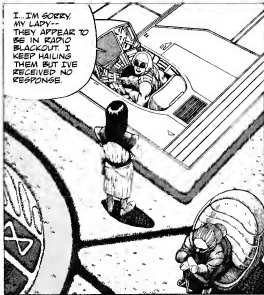
I NEVER
DRINK MALTAI
WINE IN THE
AFTERNOON!
HOW MANY TIMES
MUST I TELL YOU
YOU WORTHLESS
LITTLE SLUT
?!



YOU! ARE
THERE STILL
NO TIDINGS
FROM EDDA
OF THE
ILGHADDEEN
?!



I...I'M SORRY,
MY LADY--
THEY APPEAR TO
BE IN RADIO
BLACKOUT. I
KEEP HAILING
THEM BUT I'VE
RECEIVED NO
RESPONSE.





CALM DOWN,
CHILD...HAVE
YOU NO
PATIENCE
?



CALM DOWN?! HOW AM I
TO BE CALM AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
HOW COULD YOU DO IT, GRANDMOTHER?
HOW COULD YOU TRUST A CREATURE
LIKE EDDA OF THE ILSHAPEEN WITH
THE WOMAN WHO MIGHT BE THE
LONG-LOST RULER OF THE
CRYSTAL WORLD?!



HYDRAX, MY
SWEET...LOOK
AT YOUR
GRANDMOTHER
AND LISTEN!



YOU ARE ANXIOUS, MY DEAR
GRANDDAUGHTER...ANXIOUS TO
RULE ROCKLAND, AND SO MUCH
MORE BESIDES! KNOW THAT A
TRUE RULER ALWAYS SITS TO
LISTEN, AND PRESERVES HER
MAJESTY IN THE MOST
TRYING TIMES!





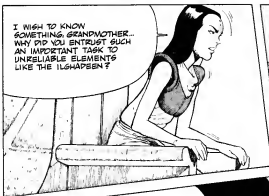
FOUL AND
INFURIATING
FLOOR-COVERING!
HAVE YOU
LEARNED YOUR
LESSON?!



HEH, HEH,
HEH!
SUCH A
SPOILED
LITTLE
DEAR
!



I WISH TO KNOW
SOMETHING, GRANDMOTHER...
WHY DID YOU ENTRUST SUCH
AN IMPORTANT TASK TO
UNRELIABLE ELEMENTS
LIKE THE ILGHADSEN?



MMH...

.....



WHEN MY YOUNGER BROTHER,
KING GÁLMOS, DIED THREE YEARS
AGO, HE LEFT NO HEIR TO SUCCEED
HIM ON THE THRONE. INSTEAD
YOU, MY ONLY LIVING GRANDDAUGHTER,
TOOK THE REINS OF POWER...WITH A
LITTLE HELP FROM GRANDMOTHER,
OF COURSE.



SO YOU SAY!
BUT MY POWER
IS ONLY TEM-
PORARY, AND
YOU KNOW IT!
THAT DAMNABLE
TRADITION...
THREE YEARS
AFTER THE
KING'S DEATH--



YOU NEEDN'T LECTURE ME, MY
DEAR. THREE YEARS AFTER THE
OLD KING'S DEATH, THE DOORS TO
THE CHAMBER OF POWER IN THE
PINNACLE OF THIS TOWER WILL
OPEN, AND WHOEVER DRINKS
OF THE ELIXIR OF KNOWLEDGE
AND BATHES IN THE SILVER
LIGHT SHALL BECOME THE
NEXT TRUE RULER...



ENOUGH! THE THREE
YEARS ARE ALMOST OVER.
UNTIL NOW, NO ONE BUT I
COULD HAVE ENTERED THE
CHAMBER TO RECEIVE THE
POWER OF THE
SILVER LIGHT...



AND SO YOU SHALL, MY
DEAR... BOTH OF US SHALL
BUT YOU WORRY THAT
THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE
APPEARED IN ROCKLAND
MIGHT BE LUNA
OKUSUTAN AND HER
RETINUS, HMMM?



WELL, CEASE
YOUR SPECU-
LATIONS, CHILD.
ACCORDING TO
MY DIVINATIONS,
IT IS INDEED
HER, THE
HEIRESS TO
THE CRYSTAL
WORLD!



BUT GRANDMOTHER! THE ILSHADEEN
ARE ALWAYS CURSING MY NAME...THEY
SAY SUCH FOUL THINGS ABOUT ME!
THEY SAY I AM A FRAUD, A DICTATOR, A
DEMONESS! IF THEY FIND OUT THEY
HAVE THE PRINCESS LUNA, THEY'LL
STAGE A COUP D'ETAT!! THEY'LL
STOP AT NOTHING TO DEPOSE ME!



DO YOU
FEAR THE
ILSHADPEN,
MY DEAR
GRAND-
DAUGHTER...
?

OF...OF
COURSE NOT!
WE COMPLETELY
OUTNUMBER
THEM! AND
WE HAVE
YOUR MAGIC
TO HELP US..

THE ILSHADPEN ARE SAVAGE
BARBARIANS, CHILD! ANYONE
OF THEM IS WORTH A DOZEN OF
OUR TOY SOLDIERS, SOFT AND
LAZY AS THEY ARE! WITH THE
PRINCESS AT THEIR HEAD,
THEY WILL STORM AND TAKE
THIS TOWER, HAVE
NO DOUBT!

BUT...BUT,
GRANDMOTHER...
WHAT CAN
WE DO...?!

WHY, WE SHALL DO
NOTHING, OF COURSE.
HAVE YOU SO QUICKLY
FORGOTTEN WHO
STANDS BEHIND US?

KA-
KAKUO
THE
GREAT
!

INDEED, MY DEAR... KAKUO!!
HE TO WHOM I SECRETLY PLEDGED
OUR ALLEGIANCE AFTER THE DEATH OF
MY FOOL BROTHER! IT WAS KAKUO
WHO PUT US ON THE THRONE THREE
YEARS AGO, AND HE WILL AGAIN
LEND US HIS MIGHT TO SEE
THAT WE STAY HERE!

THE ILGHAPTEEN SAVAGES WILL CERTAINLY BE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT WHO OUR ALLIES **REALLY** ARE!

HEH, HEH.
HEH...



THEY BABBLE ON ABOUT KAKUO'S SPIES AND HOW THEY DESPISE HIM, AND YET THEY ALLOW US TO RULE THE COUNTRY! SIMPLE FOOLS... THEY WERE TAKEN IN **COMPLETELY** BY THE STATUE WE SECRETLY GAVE THE TALMEN GIANTS.



I KNOW WE HAVE THE ILGHAPTEEN SERVANTS HERE IN THE TOWER TO USE AS HOSTAGES, BUT EVEN SO, GRANDMOTHER...



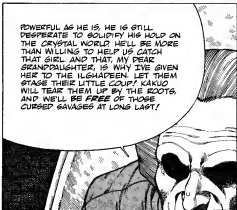
...WILL HE **REALLY** COME? WILL KAKUO COME WHEN WE NEED HIM?



YOU FORGET WHAT THE PRINCESS MEANS TO KAKUO, CHILD. YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT SHE IS THE **LEGITIMATE** HEIR TO THE CRYSTAL WORLD... TO KNOW SHE IS HERE IN ROCKLAND WILL DRAW KAKUO IRRESISTIBLY TO US.



POWERFUL AS HE IS, HE IS STILL DESPERATE TO SOLIDIFY HIS HOLD ON THE CRYSTAL WORLD. WE'LL BE MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP US CATCH THAT GIRL AND THAT, MY DEAR GRANDDAUGHTER, IS WHY I'VE GIVEN HER TO THE ILGHAPTEEN. LET THEM STAGE THEIR LITTLE COUP! KAKUO WILL TEAR THEM UP BY THE ROOTS, AND WE'LL BE **FREE** OF THOSE CURSED SAVAGES AT LONG LAST!



MY DEAR
GRANDMOTHER...
YOU'VE
THOUGHT OF
EVERYTHING!



THIS IS NOTHING, HYDRAX! THIS IS BUT A
SHADOW OF WHAT WILL COME AFTER! WHEN
THE GATES OF THE CHAMBER OF POWER OPEN,
YOU WILL BE THE ONE TO BATHE IN THE SILVER
LIGHT, BUT IT WILL BE I WHO WILL DRINK OF
THE ELIXIR OF KNOWLEDGE! UNDERSTAND, MY
DEAR? I AM DIFFERENT FROM MY SPINELESS
BROTHER...I AM A TRUE SORCERESS! ARMED
WITH THE ELIXIR OF KNOWLEDGE, ALL WILL
FALL BEFORE ME--EVEN KAKUO!



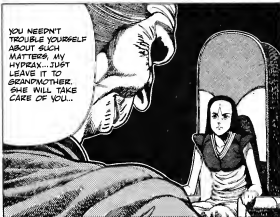
HIS POWER
WILL BE AS
NOTHING!
I SHALL
CRUSH
HIM!!



BUT,
GRANDMOTHER...
AM I TO
HAVE ONLY
THE SILVER
LIGHT? WHAT
WILL THAT DO
FOR ME? I...



YOU NEEDN'T
TROUBLE YOURSELF
ABOUT SUCH
MATTERS, MY
HYDRAX...JUST
LEAVE IT TO
GRANDMOTHER.
SHE WILL TAKE
CARE OF YOU...



I DON'T KNOW
HOW YOU KNOW
BUT YES, MY
NAME IS LUNA
OKUSUTAN!



FATHER! I
CAN'T QUITE
UNDERSTAND
HER, BUT I'M
SURE SHE
SAID SHE'S THE
PRINCESS
LUNA!



THEN
IT IS
TRUE!
GOOD
JOB,
SON!



ATTENTION ALL HANDS!
WE ARE **NOT** RETURNING TO
THE TOWER! PREPARE TO
LEAVE THE MAIN TUNNEL AND
ENTER SUBSHAFT SIXTEEN!
STARBOARD RUDDER!
COMBAT SPEED!

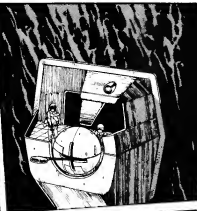
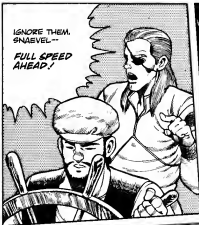




**ATTENTION ILGHADEEN
FLEET! YOU ARE NOT
AUTHORIZED TO ENTER
SUBSHAFT SIXTEEN!
REVERSE COURSE OR
WE WILL OPEN FIRE!
REPEAT, WE WILL
OPEN FIRE!**



IGNORE THEM,
SNAEVEL--
FULL SPEED
AHEAD!



IF YOU
DO NOT
REVERSE
COURSE
IN TEN
SECONDS,
WE OPEN
FIRE!



CAPTAIN EDDA!
THIS IS HIGH TREASON
AGAINST THE LADY
HYDRAX! YOU MUST
STOP THE SHIP!



SO, YOU
ARE THE
TREACHEROUS
DOG HYDRAK
SLIPPED ON
BOARD MY
SHIP!

NOT
JUST ME...
YOUR
TIME
IS UP,
CAPTAIN
!

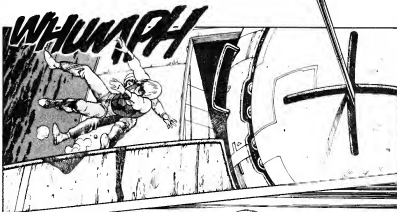
I WILL
NOT
SURRENDER
MY SHIP
!

THEN
DIE
!!

KAK

CHUD





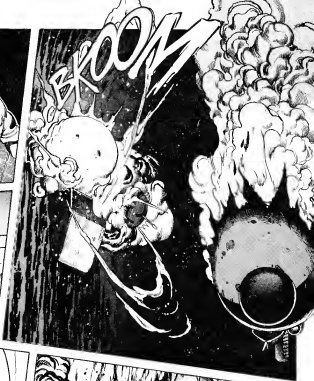
IF YOU WORMS
STILL FEEL EVEN
A SHRED OF
ILSHADEN PRIDE,
I'LL FORGET YOU
EVER SOLD OUT
TO HYDRAX!



ENOUGH!
YOUR TIME IS
UP! GUNNER,
FIRE AT WILL
!



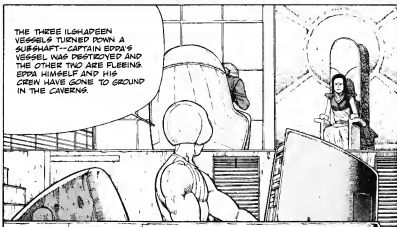




MEAD! CAN
YOU HEAR ME?
WE'LL MEET AT
THE SECRET
RENDEZVOUS!
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT ME...
JUST GO!



THE THREE ILGHADEEN
VESSELS TURNED DOWN A
SUBSHAFT--CAPTAIN EDDA'S
VESSEL WAS DESTROYED AND
THE OTHER TWO ARE FLEEING.
EDDA HIMSELF AND HIS
CREW HAVE GONE TO GROUND
IN THE CAVERNS.



HOW AMUSING!
LET'S HAVE A LITTLE
HUNT IN THE CAVES--
READY THE TETHYS!



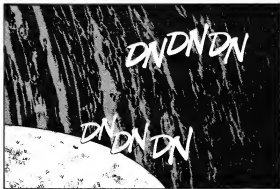
GRANDMOTHER,
CONTACT
KAKUO AND
TELL HIM--

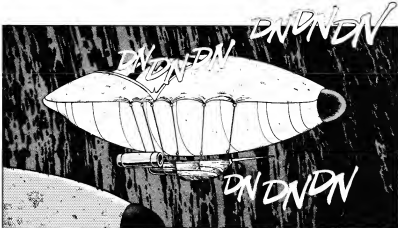


--ABOUT
THE PRINCESS
LUNA? IT'S
ALREADY
BEEN
DONE, MY
CHILD!



DNDNDN
DNDNDN





BACK-
STABBING
SCUM!



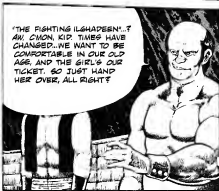
THAT GIRL'S
THE PRINCESS
OF THE CRYSTAL
WORLD, AINT
SHE, MEAD?
WELL, HAND
HER OVER LIKE
A GOOD LITTLE
BOY...



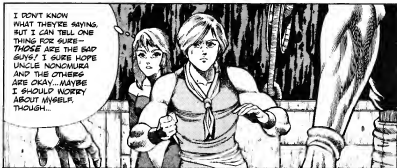
YOU WOULD
BETRAY
YOUR
ILGHADEEN
BLOOD
?!



"THE FIGHTING ILGHADEEN"...?
AW, C'MON, KID. TIMES HAVE
CHANGED..WE WANT TO BE
COMFORTABLE IN OUR OLD
AGE, AND THE GIRL'S OUR
TICKET. SO JUST HAND
HER OVER, ALL RIGHT?



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING,
BUT I CAN TELL ONE
THING FOR SURE--
**THOSE ARE THE BAD
GUYS!** I SURE HOPE
UNCLE NONOMURA
AND THE OTHERS
ARE OKAY...MAYBE
I SHOULD WORRY
ABOUT MYSELF,
THOUGH...



THE
REST
OF THE
CREW,
SNAEVEL
?

SAFE AND
ACCOUNTED
FOR, SIR!



EXCELLENT! WELL,
WE HAVE NO CHOICE--
WE'LL HAVE TO
TRAVERSE THE
CAVERNS TO THE
RENDEZVOUS.
**WE SET OUT
IMMEDIATELY,
MEN!**







TO BE CONTINUED...

SCANNED BY: EVANGELISTI
EDITED BY: ZOMBIEBOASTER
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CYBER 7

Bohannon: ROCK AND

TM



the PENUMBRA

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ON THE RACKS

- **CYBER 7: BOOK 2 no. 4**
Natsuko's revolution is in danger of collapsing before the Hydrax's superior forces.
- **DOMINION no. 2**
The super-criminal Buuku hijacks Leone's tank to launch an assault upon the city!
- **MIRACLEMAN no. 16**
Following the death of Kid Miracleman, Miracleman sets about London's and humanity's reconstruction.
- **WHAT'S MICHAEL?**
The cat comic that exploded onto the best-seller lists in Japan is now available in America!
- **DIRTY PAIR II no. 4**
The renegade Sheriff killed the Dirty Pair years ago... now they want revenge!
- **THE HOBBIT no. 2**
J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy masterpiece continues as Bilbo must win a riddle contest with Gollum to save his life, then trek across the Wild to his final destination, the Lonely Mountain.
- **APPLESEED: BOOK THREE no. 4**
Denzen is unknowingly the courier of a smuggler's microchip. Events become complicated when they try to get it back!
- **THE HOBBIT POSTER no. 2**
Bilbo and Gollum are deep in a riddle contest in this full-size poster of the cover to *The Hobbit* #2.
- **SCOUT: MOUNT FIRE**
Scout meets the strange cult of Doodlybits, the colorful Beau LeBuke, and winds up in a nuclear stand-off. From *Scout* #18-14.
- **ZOT! no. 29**
What does Zot do now that he's stuck on our earth? He goes out to fight crime, of course! But he's in for more than one surprise!
- **ROADSWART**
A misshapen dwarf, a sorcerous prince, and a princess in distress play out a tale of madness and murder, blasphemous ambition, and tragic fate!

A DECADE AIN'T A DECADE TIL YOU'RE DONE WITH IT

Just about every magazine I've opened this past month has featured at least one article by some paid prognosticator telling us what "the next decade" is gonna be like. It's not their predictions I find so annoying as their assumptions about what decade 1990 is in.

I don't want to bore anybody who knows this already, but the entire "A.D." [Anno Domini] system of time measurement began with the year 1, not with the year 0 (there was no year 0); therefore each decade starts in a year that ends with the numeral 1 (i.e. 1991).

Another way to figure it is that since the first decade of the "A.D." system ended in the year 10, every subsequent decade must conclude with a number that ends in a zero. This decade is no exception, which means 1990 is the last year of this decade, not the first year of the next decade.

"Oh, sure," you may say, "but a decade only means a ten year span of time; from 1832 to 1841 was a decade, too, you know, so if people count from '0' years through to '9' years instead of from '1' years through to '0' years, they're still counting by decades."

True, but that's a personal and arbitrary "decade"—it is not based on a standard starting point like the "A.D." system. However, since these days the "A.D." system is apparently used only by pedants and scholars, we should attempt to give a name to the popular new way of measuring time.

Let us call the "0" through "9" system of time measurement the "A.T.N." [Anno Time Newsweek] system. "A.T.N." rules specify that the last issue of every magazine


published in a "9" year will contain a cover story on the man, woman, or people "of the decade," two articles about "changes of the past decade," and a round-robin discussion forecasting "expected changes in the new decade."

Of course, once you open the door to individualized time-keeping systems, anybody can create one. For instance, we could start reckoning time from the Nullification Crisis of 1832. In that system of time measurement, each new decade commences in a year ending with the numeral 2 and each decade concludes in a year ending with the numeral 1.

According to the "A.N.C." [Anno Nullification Crisis] time system, we will reach the end of a decade in 1991 and inaugurate a new decade on January 1st, 1992. We'll be forced to endure yards of type devoted to "coming decade" predictions then, but it'll be even worse when we get to January 1st, 2032: That will mark the beginning of a new "A.N.C." millennium, and the professional prognosticators will rule the airwaves for weeks!

If you thought the coming of the new "A.T.N." decade was fun, let's get together in 1991 for a celebration of the new "A.D." decade, okay? Then in 1992, we can celebrate the new "A.N.C." decade. Heck, why limit ourselves to decades that begin on January 1st? Let's get some action going in February and March, too!

Hey, it's our life, and we can have the time of it any old time we want to!

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7™



BRIDGE ELEVEN: Flight to the Center of the Earth

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

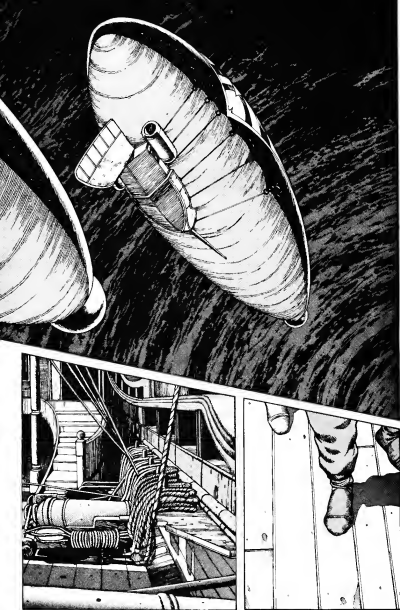
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HNNGG...
YOU'LL
PAY
FOR
THIS...

I BELIEVED
ALL ILGHADREN
WERE MEN OF
HONOR. AND YET
SCUM LIKE YOU
WERE HIDING
AMONG US ALL
THE TIME!

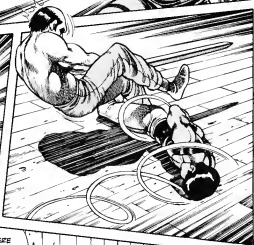
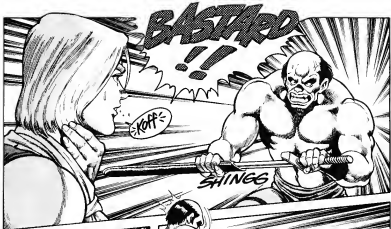












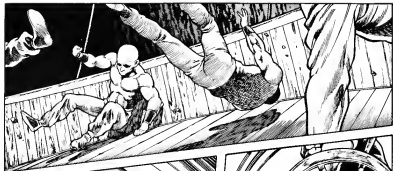










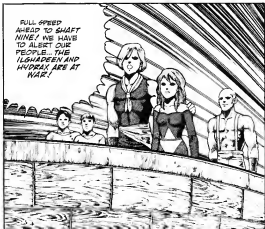


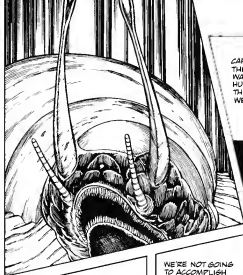
SHIP TWO!
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?
?

NO APPARENT
DAMAGE! BUT
BE CAREFUL--
HYDRAK MAY
HAVE SPIES
ABOARD YOUR
SHIP!

DON'T WORRY, BOSS!
I'VE KNOWN EVERY
MAN ON BOARD
THIS SHIP FOR
TEN YEARS!
'SIDES, NOBODY
WOULD PUT
SPIES ON A
CARGO
SHIP!







CAPTAIN EDDIE,
THERE'S NO
WAY WE CAN
HURT THAT
THING WITHOUT
WEAPONS!

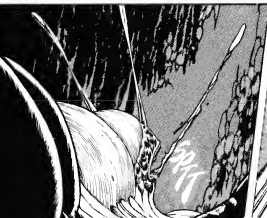


RETREAT!!
ALL HANDS
FALL BACK
!

TRUE...THOSE
THINGS MOVE ALMOST
AS FAST AS A
RUNNING MAN, AND
THEY CAN SMELL US
MILES AWAY...



WE'RE NOT GOING
TO ACCOMPLISH
ANYTHING BY
DROPPING ROCKS
ON IT. WE'LL TRY
TO PUT SOME
DISTANCE BETWEEN
US, AND WORK OUT
SOME NEW STRAT-
EGY AS WE GO.



AIEE!

SUCK

YAAHHH!

SKUNCH





YOU
NOT
WANT
HELP
?!



IT HURT
YOU PRIDE
TO BE
HELP BY
PRISONER.
?!



OR
MAYBE
YOU NO
TRUST
A
TALMEN
?



AAAA



MY
THANKS...

HELPED BY
PRISONER...
HUNTED BY
ALLY... YOU
FALL LOW,
ILSHADSEN

SELL TO
"KAKUO"? SELL
ROCKLAND?
WHO IS THIS
"KAKUO"?
WE SELL
TO NO ONE
!!

DON'T PLAY
THE INNOCENT
WITH ME, TALMEN!
WHAT IS THAT
IDOL YOU WORSHIP,
SHT? IT'S KAKUO!
WHAT MORE PROOF
DO WE NEED
THAT YOU'VE SOLD
OUT TO HIM?!



AT LEAST
WE HAVEN'T
SOLD OUR
COUNTRY
TO KAKUO,
TALMEN!



THAT STATUE YOUR OWN
KING GALMOS GIVE US
THREE YEAR AGO? HE
SAY IT HOLY STATUE
CARVE BY TALMEN
ANCESTOR! HE SENT IT
TO US AS SYMBOL OF
PEACE! I DO NOT
KNOW THIS NAME
KAKUO!!

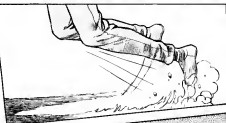
THREE YEARS
AGO...? THREE
YEARS AGO KING
GALMOS WAS
BEDRIPPEN
ON THE VERGE
OF DEATH!
HOW COULD
HE HAVE SENT
YOU A STATUE
OF KAKUO...?

HE SENT
OLD OLD
WOMAN
FOR HIM
SHE SAY
SHE SISTER
OF KING.

THAT MUST HAVE
BEEN THE
MATRIARCH!
BARONESS HYDRAX'S
TREACHEROUS
GRANDMOTHER!
IT WAS ALL A
TRICK!! A
FILTHY TRICK TO
MAKE US THINK
YOU TALMEN WERE
KAKUO'S AGENTS!
DAMN HER!!

FORGIVE US!
IT APPEARS WE
HAVE BOTH BEEN
TRAGICALLY
DECEIVED WORDS
ALONE CANNOT
MAKE RECOMPENSE,
BUT FOR NOW,
ACCEPT MY SINCERE
APOLOGY FOR ALL
ILGHADDEEN!

HEY! GLAD YOU
TWO ARE GETTING
ALONG SO WELL,
BUT WE'VE GOT A
MONSTER ON
OUR TAIL,
REMEMBER T!





EVERYONE
GET TO
THE BACK
OF THE
CAVE!
QUICK!

CUNNINGHAM!
YOU SAID YOU
KNOW THIS
LANGUAGE--
TELL THEM
WHAT I
SAID!

CAPTAIN EPDA
THE BOY SEEMS
TO HAVE SOME
IDEA OF HIS
OWN...
HE WANTS
EVERYONE TO
GO TO THE
BACK OF THE
CAVE!

WHAT
SORT OF
FOOLISH
IDEA IS
THAT?
DOES
HIS RACE
COMMIT
RITUAL
SUICIDE,
PERHAPS
?

GRANDMOTHER...
THERE'S NO
ANSWER FROM
KAKUO!
WHAT'S WRONG

SILENCE
GIRL! KAKUO
ISN'T A
SCREECHING
BEAT LIKE
YOU! HE
ANSWERS
IN HIS
OWN GOOD
TIME..





HUH?
NOTICED
WHAT
?!



THE ROCK SALT, DAD!
THIS IS A NATURAL ROCK SALT
CAVE! THAT THING'S JUST A
GIANT SLUG, SO IF HE HITS
THE SALT IT'LL PULL THE
WATER RIGHT OUT OF HIM--
HE'LL JUST SHRIVEL
UP AND DIE!



WE'VE GOT
TO GET IT
TO COME
IN HERE
AFTER
US! BUT
HOW--



TO BE CONTINUED

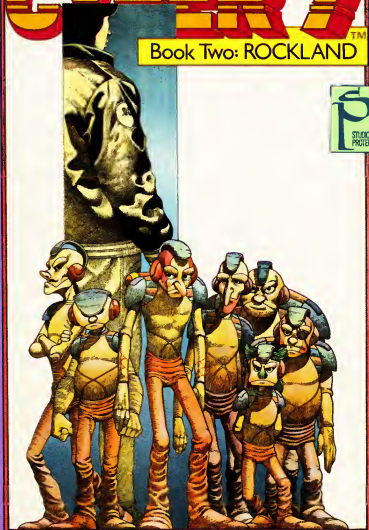
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Professor Garbonzo tries to duplicate Beanish's "Jumpin' Power" using the Float Factor

HELLO GOODBYE: It's time to say goodbye to someone who has worked at Eclipse for many years, our first full-time helper, as a matter of fact, and a friend who has gone through flood (if not fire) with us.

Sean Deming—editor, scripter, distribution manager, ad copy writer, book designer, finder of lost electric outlets, Paul McCartney look-alike, unicyclist, juggler, singer, and part-time actor—is leaving us.

Why?

Well, he intends to make that last attribute full-time instead of part-time, and possibly even big-time, if he gets a break. As some of you know, Sean's been playing in local theatre productions (*The Three Penny Opera*, *Dracula*, *Amadeus*) for a number of years. The only trouble with that is the really good jobs are not in cities of 100,000, like Santa Rosa—they're in New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, Chicago, and the like.

As Sean explains it: "I don't want to look back through the rest of my life and wonder, 'Could I have made it?' If I fail, I'll at least know I tried, and that means going to a bigger city and auditioning for everything I can."

I hope he does make it. He's talented, and he's very motivated, and he is one of the fastest learners I've ever met. We're really going to miss him—but he's following his dream and trying to make it come true, and that's the best way to live.

Good luck, Sean-boy. It was fun, it was grim, it was underwater some of the time—and we won't forget you. If you ever change your mind and want to come back home, remember what Al Jolson said about that Golden Gate. It'll be open...

Although at press time no replacement for Sean has been chosen, our office staff has expanded again, with the addition of a full-time warehouse manager. Marilee Hord is her name, and she'll be overseeing The Guys (Ed and Darryl) and The Teen Squad (Quinn, Dave, Canyon, Scott, and Mike).

The Guys do the heavy packing and loading, fill large distributor re-orders, erect steel shelving, and drink coffee. The Teen Squad members handle back issue fulfillment, pack small distributor and book store re-orders, send out promotional material, and drink carbonated beverages.

Marilee will be assigning them tasks, taking charge of deliveries, maintaining the inventory, and helping out on whatever shipping problems are most urgent. Today was her first day, and in addition to being walked through the job by Ed and me, she became intimately acquainted with the subject of binding problems by picking through an incoming shipment and pulling hundreds of books to return to the printer because they were badly glued.

In the tradition of the Freedom of Information Act, it's fair to say (without threatening national security) that Marilee is in her twenties, has long, wavy, red-brown hair, laughs a lot, and is a native Californian. Her taste in clothes is ornamental and eclectic. Her taste in men is impeccable. And she can play the violin.

So hello, Marilee—goodbye, Sean.

catherine yronwode
⊕

CYBER 7™



BRIDGE TWELVE: Martial Law in the Labyrinth

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

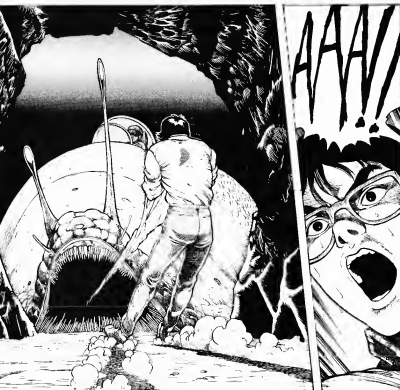
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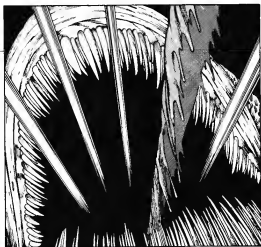
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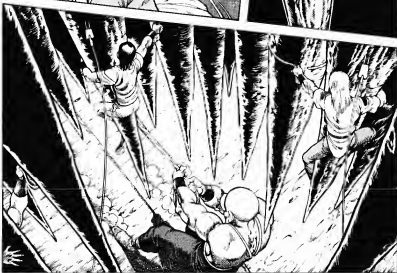
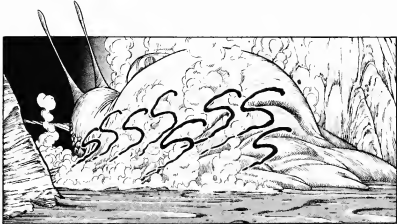
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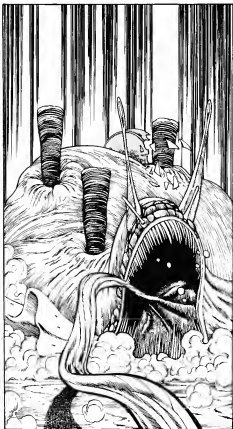
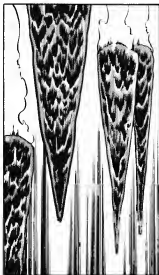


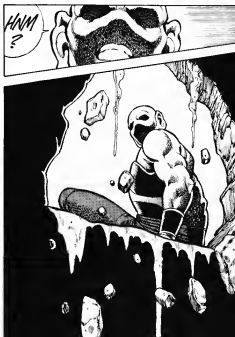








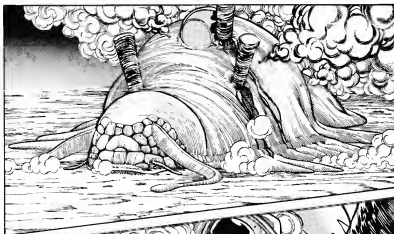
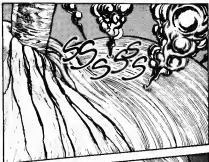
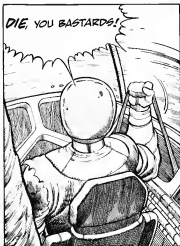






GIVEEEY





THAT GAS...!!
IT MUST BE
POISONOUS!
HE'S TRYING
TO TAKE US
WITH HIM
!!



WHAT DO WE DO
CAPTAIN? EITHER
WE BRAVE THE
GAS NOW, OR DIE
WHEN IT FILLS
THE CAVE!



NOT WORRY,
ILSHADEEN...
ESCAPE ALL
READY, BUT
I NOT
KNOW WHERE
IT GO...



(WELL, MAN FROM
ANOTHER WORLD...
IF WE STAY, WE
DIE ANYWAY!
SHALL WE GO
THEN...?)



I'M NOT
SURE, BUT
HE SEEMS
AWFULLY
ANXIOUS
TO HAVE
US GO
FIRST!

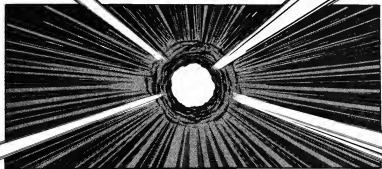
I DUNNO...
IT'S PITCH
BLACK DOWN
THERE...

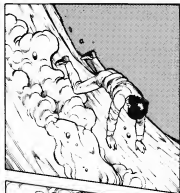
I
THINK
YOU
SHOULD
GO
FIRST!

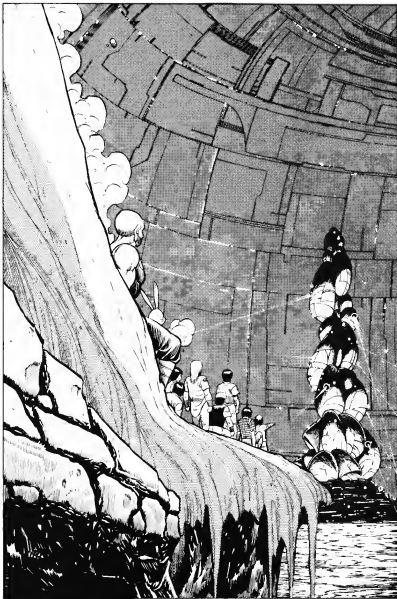




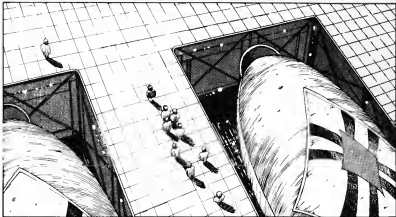














I'M CERTAIN
MY FATHER
CAN EXPLAIN,
ONCE HE
ARRIVES.

SO I'M
TO SHUT
UP AND
WAIT,
IS THAT
IT?



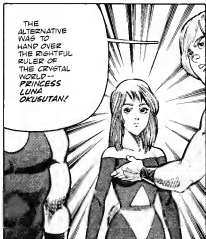
NOW YOU LISTEN HERE,
YOUNG MASTER MEAD! IN
CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, WE
ILSHAPBEN HAVE THIRTY OF
OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN
IN THAT TOWER, HELD AS
HOSTAGES. GUARANTEES OF
OUR CONTINUING LOYALTY
TO THE BARONESS HYDRAX!



DECLARING WAR IN
THIS MANNER MEANS
SIGNING THEIR **DEATH
WARRANT!** YOU INTEND
TO RUSH BLINDLY INTO A
CONFLICT WITHOUT EVEN
THE SLIGHTEST PLAN TO
RESCUE THEM, AND YET
YOU EXPECT US TO
AGREE TO THIS
MADNESS .?



I... I
UNDERSTAND
YOUR
FEELINGS,
LORD ELDER,
BUT PLEASE
BELIEVE
ME, WE
HAD NO
CHOICE.



THE
ALTERNATIVE
WAS TO
HAND OVER
THE RIGHTFUL
RULER OF
THE CRYSTAL
WORLD--
**PRINCESS
LUNA
OKUSUTAN!**



SO... CAPTAIN
BDDA WAS TAKEN
IT UPON HIMSELF
TO TRADE THE
LIVES OF OUR
WIVES AND
CHILDREN FOR A
PRINCESS FROM
ANOTHER WORLD..
IS THAT IT,
YOUNG MAN
?



THE
ELDER'S
RIGHT
!





(MAKE IT LOOK LIKE WE DON'T HAVE ANY PLANS AT ALL. IF THE SPY REPORTS THAT BACK TO HYDRAX, SHE'LL PROBABLY LEAVE THE HOSTAGES ALONE)



(I SEE. THEY RELAX. WE ATTACK WITH TOTAL SURPRISE. AND OUR SPY HELPS THE HOSTAGES ESCAPE IN THE CONFUSION)



OOOHH!!
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE I EVER THOUGHT WELL OF YOU! YOU AND YOUR WORTHLESS FATHER BOTH!!



I'M SORRY EVERYONE. TERRIBLY SORRY. IT SEEMS MY FATHER HAS MADE A GRIEVOUS TACTICAL ERROR. PLEASE GIVE ME SOME TIME TO THINK.



JUST HOLD ON HERE! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?! DO YOU PEOPLE HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH? WE'RE NOT JUST GOING TO--

THAT'S ENOUGH JIRON! DO AS I COMMAND!



YOU SEE WE HAVE NO CHOICE MEAD-- WE'LL TELL HYDRAX THAT WE'LL SURRENDER IF SHE PROMISES NOT TO HURT THE HOSTAGES.

I DESERVE AN OSCAR FOR THIS!





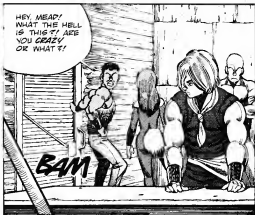
JUST WHO DOES SHE
THINK SHE IS, ANYWAY!
I DON'T CARE IF SHE IS
A PRINCESS, SHE'S GOT
NO RIGHT TO LOOK AT
ME THAT WAY! OOOHHH!
IF SHE TRIES ANYTHING
WITH MEAD, I'LL TEAR
HER HEART OUT!



DOESN'T
SHE LOOK LIKE
A SWEETHEART!
WAILING AND
WEEPING LIKE
A BABY, THEN
GIVING ME
THE EVIL EYE!
I JUST
HATE PEOPLE
LIKE THAT!



HEY, MEAD!
WHAT THE HELL
IS THIS? ARE
YOU CRAZY
OR WHAT?!



ALL HANDS, ATTENTION!
TIME TO CLEAR THE DECKS
FOR ACTION! JIRON, YOU
TAKE COMMAND OF THE
ARMORED BATTLECRUISER!
EVERYONE IS CAUTIONED
THAT THIS OPERATION IS
TOP SECRET!!

HEARD
WOULD
YOU
PLEASE
TELL
ME
WHAT--

EVERYTHING
IS JUST FINE,
JIRON...
NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT.
RIGHT,
PRINCESS?

?

MATRIARCH!
WE HAVE
A REPORT
FROM ONE
OF OUR
SPIES
WITH THE
ILSHADEEN
!

HE SAYS THAT THEY
HAVE NO PLANS FOR
RESCUING THE HOS-
TAGES--IN FACT, THEY'RE
WILLING TO SURRENDER
IF WE GUARANTEE THE
SAFETY OF THE
HOSTAGES

HHMM.
NOT AT
ALL WHAT
I WOULD
HAVE
EXPECTED
FROM THE
ILSHADEEN..

...BUT SO BE IT! STILL
I HAD SO WANTED TO
MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF
CAPTAIN EDDA'S DAUGH-
TER. AH, WELL, THE
BLOODLETTERS CAN
WAIT UNTIL LATER.





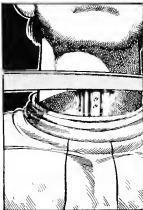
HOW MANY
OF YOU WERE
THERE AT
THE MEETING?
TALK!!



**SCREW
YOU!**



NONE OF YOU
HAVE THE GUTS
TO DIE FOR
HYDREAX OR HER
MASTER. TALK
NOW OR
NEVER SPEAK
AGAIN!



I-I. PLEASE
NO! I'LL TALK!
STOP IT!



<THOSE CLOTHES
STAND OUT TOO
MUCH. PRINCESS
LUNA-- PLEASE
CHANGE INTO
THESE.>

I'M SORRY..
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.
DO YOU
WANT ME TO
CHANGE...
?

WE'RE ONLY A
FEW MINUTES
AWAY FROM THE
KINPEZIOUS
SITE,
GENTLEMEN
!



JEEZ, HOW LONG
DO I HAVE TO RUN
UP AND DOWN TUN-
NELS WITH THESE
LOSERS?! I'VE GOT
TO FINISH OFF LUNA
AND DAMN SOON!



YOUR
STRENGTH
HAS SAVED
US MANY
TIMES OVER,
CHIEF OF
THE TALMEN.
YOU HAVE
MY THANKS.



ANY
WHO SELL
ROCKLAND
ARE ENEMY
OF TALMEN
TRIBE. I
NOT NEED
THANKS.



WHAT DO
YOU THINKS
HAPPENED
TO
NATSUKO...
?

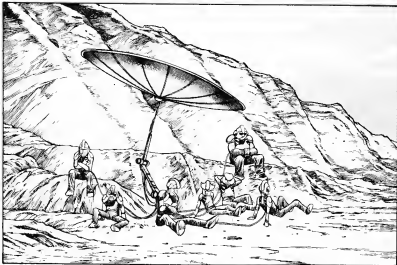


DAMN, I ALMOST FORGOT
ABOUT THAT HOTSHOT SHOW-OFF
PLAYBOY PUNK! IF HE LAYS A
HAND ON HER, I'LL SEND HIM
STRAIGHT TO HELL! I'LL
STRANGLE HIM WITH MY
BARE HANDS! I'LL--



ME, I WAS WONDERING
WHAT'S BECOME OF BIG BEAR
AND THE TROUPE AND NAZUKA
AND ALL THE REST OF THEM,
BACK IN THE REAL WORLD.
WHAT ARE THEY DOING? DO
THEY PAY MY TAXES FOR
ME? I WONDER IF WE'LL
EVER SEE OUR HOME
AGAIN...





HOW
GOES IT,
TACHYON?
HOW ARE
THE
ENERGY
LEVELS?

NOT
COMPLETELY
FULL, BUT
FULL
ENOUGH.
WE CAN--



LOOK OVER
THERE!
SIXTEEN
MILES DUE
EAST!



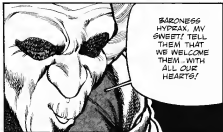


Matriarch! Incoming message from a unit of Kakuo's troops! They say they've arrived in Rockland to capture Princess Luna!

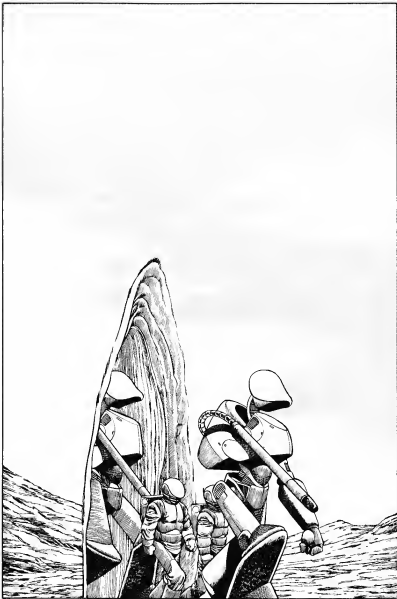


WHAT?!

HRMM... SO, YOU THINK YOU'VE SEEN THROUGH MY PLANS, EH, KAKUO? NOT QUITE, NOT QUITE... DON'T THINK ME SO TRANSPARENT...



BARONESS HYPRAX, MY SWEET! TELL THEM THAT WE WELCOME THEM WITH ALL OUR HEARTS!



TO BE CONTINUED...

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